

DFAS-SL Transition Times

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Travel Web Site

The Director of DFAS Columbus, Ms Zmyslinski stated, "Our Columbus Travel Office is experiencing an increase in PCS claims and inquiries. Here is web-site information and an email address to use in asking PCS-related questions. Please disseminate this information to your folks involved in a PCS move". The web address is:

<https://dfas4dod.dfas.mil/centers/dfasco/customer/travel/index.htm> on the web-site you will find our "Pamphlet for Civilian Permanent Duty Travel (PDT). Our Pamphlet provides information on what the taxable entitlements are, current tax rates, information on "Withholding Tax Allowance"(WTA) and "Relocation Income Tax Allowance"(RITA) in addition to other information the employee will find helpful in completing/submitting PCS claims for reimbursement. We strongly encourage employees to review the information in our Pamphlet first. If the employee has questions after reviewing the Pamphlet, these questions should be sent to "COL-TRAVEL-CLAIMS@DFAS.MIL with the specific subject "BRAC PCS Question". All such emails will be directly routed to one of our more experienced PCS Customer Service Representatives and will be answered within 24 hours.

IMPORTANT!!

Do You need to complete the Mobility Survey?

If you want to be considered for a position with DFAS after we close **you do!** Currently, there are 42 individuals that have indicated that they are interested in continuing their DFAS career at Columbus. Complete it now. [MobilityLink](#)

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All Hands Meeting

Monday, October 23, 2006 12:30 – 2:30
Building 105 Auditorium

Ms. Pam Frederick, Human Resource Office, DFAS Indianapolis will make a presentation and Answer Questions. She will also be available to meet one-on-one with employee after the all hands session and then part of the next day. To schedule a meeting with her, send an e-mail to Victor Scauzzo and cc your supervisor.

Training Opportunity

The MO Division of Workforce Development (DWD) will provide all interested DFAS employees training on the workshops listed below. The workshops will be conducted in our Learning Resource Center large classroom. To schedule a workshop have your supervisor send an e-mail to Victor Scauzzo along with a CC to yourself. A confirmation reply will be returned to you and your supervisor. A limit to the number classes per student may be set depending on class interest. The workshops will be limited to 20 students.

Monday, 16 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon - **Resume Writing**

1:00PM – 4:00PM - **Interviewing**

Tuesday, 17 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon – **Job Search/Networking**

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **Career Exploring/Great Hires**

Wednesday, 18 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon - **Career Exploring/Great Hires**

1:00PM – 4:00PM - **Resume Writing**

Thursday, 19 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon – **Interviewing**

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **Job Search/Networking**

Friday, 20 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon - **Start Your Own Business**

Monday, 23 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon - **Resume Writing**

Tuesday, 24 OCT 06

9:00AM - Noon– **Job Search/Networking**

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **Career Exploring/Great Hires**

Wednesday, 25 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon – **Career Exploring/Great Hires**

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **Resume Writing**

Thursday, 26 OCT 06

9:00 AM-Noon – **Interviewing**

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **Job Search/Networking**

Additional information about these workshops will be available shortly at: <http://www.brac.ded.mo.gov>

DFAS-SL Transition Team The team is your information center for the many free programs/services. Listed are the Agencies/Services and the DFAS-SL POC:

Social Security Administration - Emma Strickland & Fatima Taylor-Greenlee, **MO Department of Vocational Rehabilitation** - Margie Wasser, **U.S. Department Labor-Bureau of Apprenticeship & Training** - Margie Wasser, **Educational Opportunity Center** - Jeri Bryant & Fatima Taylor-Greenlee, **University Missouri – Career Options and Fast Track Programs** - Blair Weller & Jeri Bryant, **St. Louis Community College-New Traditions Program** - Blair Weller & Jeri Bryant, **MO Department of Social Services, Division of Family Services** - Emma Strickland & Fatima Taylor-Greenlee, **St. Louis County Human Services** - Steve Frisch, **U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs** - Connie Killingworth, **AFL-CIO Union Privilege Program** - Larry Walker & Kathy Beck, **Illinois Services – Health Benefits, AFL-CIO Union Benefits, etc.** - Mike Morton, **United Way of Greater St. Louis** - Michael Woods, **MO Division of Workforce Development** - Cassandra Williams, **U.S. Department Labor - Employee Benefits Security Administration** - Debra White and Jeff Shelton, **U.S. Small Business Administration and SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executive Association)** - Elsie Cline, **Taking Control of Your Finances** - Betty Anthony and **Newsletter& BRAC Questions and Answers** - Vic Scauzzo

Results of the telephone survey

Here are the highlights from the survey of 168 civilian employees conducted at DFAS St. Louis.

1. Most (70%) plan to remain in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Even among those saying they will relocate, only about half are "very certain" about their decision.
2. Most of those remaining will enter the St. Louis area work force. Even among those indicating they will retire (about one-third of those staying the area), 81% say it is either very likely or somewhat likely they will either look for another job and start their own business.
3. Compared to the overall DFAS work force, those likely to remain in the St. Louis area have less education, are older, and predominantly female.
4. Forty percent of those likely to stay are very interested in changing careers and are seeking advice and assistance in making such a transition.
5. There is substantial interest in having a dedicated Internet site for dislocated federal employees that has "detailed and timely information about job openings within the St. Louis region" and "programs for dislocated workers."
6. With one exception between one-third and one-half express strong interest (i.e., they would find it very helpful) for every program options tested in the survey: resume/interview workshops, job skill counseling, short term training, long term training, career counseling, starting your own business, financial planning, computing training, and finance/accounting training. The one exception is management/supervisory training where just 22% are very interested about opportunities and living in a new community."

Columbus Ranks 8th best Big City to Live,

Compare the cities [Link Columbus-CNN Money](#) vs.

[Link St Louis-CNN Money](#)

Columbus Key facts:

City Population: 730,300, Median Home Price \$188,987, Climate - four seasons - average low/high temperatures: Winter 8/36; Spring 40/52; Summer 60/85; Fall 33/66, Annual precipitation 38.52 inches.

Interesting web sites: www.downtowncolumbus.com
www.columbusretrometro.com

Did you know that by moving to Columbus you receive a Locality Pay Increase! [2006 pay table](#)

Grade	Step	St. Louis	Columbus	Increase
GS-5	3	\$30,240	\$30,866	\$626
GS-5	7	\$34,020	\$34,725	\$705
GS-7	3	\$37,457	\$38,232	\$775
GS-7	7	\$42,138	\$43,010	\$872
GS-9	3	\$45,819	\$46,768	\$949
GS-9	7	\$51,549	\$52,616	\$1,067
GS-11	3	\$55,437	\$56,585	\$1,148
GS-11	7	\$62,369	\$63,660	\$1,291

Helpful Web Sites

Department of Defense Sites

- [DoD BRAC Site](#)
- [BRAC Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [DoD Transformation](#)

DFAS Sites

- [DFAS's Official Public Web Site](#)
- [DFAS Careers Page](#)
- [DFAS Civilian PCS Resource Guide](#)

US Army Sites

[Surface Deployment & Distribution Command \(SDDC\)](#)
[Missile Defense Agency \(MDA\)](#)

Other Federal Sites

- [OPM's USA Jobs Site](#)

Illinois State Sites

[Link to Illinois area Employment & Training Centers](#)

Quotes

"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." - Winston Churchill

"Now is the time. Needs are great, but your possibilities are greater." - Dave Radil

Note From the Editor

Dave Radil from Vendor Pay has joined the BRAC Project Team. The team will be located in the Corporate Resource Area on the 1st floor. As a reminder, a DSL-BRAC folder has been created in outlook, public folders, and under St. Louis folders. Thanks, Vic Scauzzo